2004 GALVESTON BAY INVASIVE SPECIES RISK ASSESSMENT
INVASIVE SPECIES SUMMARY
Created by: Environmental Institute of Houston, University of Houston-Clear Lake
and the Houston Advanced Research Center

Common Name: Water spinach, swamp morning-glory

Latin Name: *Ipomoea aquatica*

Category: Aquatic Plant

Place of Origin: Central to South China

Place of Introduction: Florida

Date of Introduction: 1979

States Effected:
Florida Hawaii Puerto Rico
http://plants.usda.gov/cgi_bin/plant_profile.cgi?symbol=IPAQ (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Life History:
"May root at every node, producing new plants when submerged." http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ipoaqu.pdf (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Growth/Size:
"Seeds germinate down to a depth of 4 inches (10 cm) or more, much deeper than most annuals."
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/morningglories.html (Accessed 18 March 2003).
"Produces 175-245 seeds per plant during peak season" http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ipoaqu.pdf (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Habitat:
"Grows well in moist soil or in still to flowing waters" http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ipoaqu.pdf (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Attitude (aggressive, etc.):
1. **"**Morning glories are a major weed problem in New Mexico, Arizona, and in the San Joaquin Valley of California, where several species of *Ipomoea* are found." http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/morningglories.html (Accessed 18 March 2003).
2. "…190,000 kg fresh weight biomass per ha (84 tons per acre) in 9 months in Florida." http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ipoaqu.pdf (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Physical Description:
"Morning glories, often called annual morning glories, have heart-shaped, first true leaves with deep lobes at the base. Seedling leaves are more deeply notched and much larger than those of field bindweed. Mature plants have long stems that climb and twine. The funnel-shaped flower varies in color, from violet or blue to pink and red."
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/morningglories.html (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Management Recommendations / Control Strategies: include references for existing site-specific strategies
"Control is critical from crop emergence to harvest. Destroy seedlings while they are small, because once they have twined up stems they are difficult to control without injuring the crop. Seeds remain viable in soil for long periods."
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/morningglories.html (Accessed 18 March 2003).

Agencies Collecting Data:
University of Florida

References (includes journals, agency/university reports, and internet links):

1. IPM - http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/morningglories.html
2. IFAS - http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ipoaqu.pdf
3. GRIN - http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?20138

Available Mapping Information:
PLANTS - http://plants.usda.gov/cgi_bin/plant_profile.cgi?symbol=IPAQ